

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /059 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2916

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, BM

SUBJECT: NE WIN VISITS DACCA

1. JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF APRIL 26-29 VISIT OF NE WIN TO BANGLADESH WAS NONCOMMITTAL AND LACKING IN SUBSTANCE. DISCUSSIONS WERE DESCRIBED AS TAKING PLACE "IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF GREAT CORDIALITY AND MUTUAL INTEREST." ON INDIAN OCEAN, BOTH LEADERS "EXPRESSED CONCERN" AT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND REITERATED SUPPORT FOR KEEPING THE OCEAN "A ZONE OF PEACE FREE FROM BIG POWER RIVALRY." THEY ALSO HOPED FOR LASTING PEACE IN INDOCHINA AND DESIRED "SCRUPULOUS IMPLEMENTATION" OF PARIS AGREEMENT, AND WELCOMED FORMATION OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION IN LAOS. NE WIN DID NOT SUBSCRIBE TO MUJIB'S EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR ARABS BUT JOINED IN WELCOMING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST ASIA AND EXPRESSING HOPE FOR A DURABLE PEACE. BOTH LEADERS ALSO AGREED IN EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER HARDSHIPS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES RESULTING FROM PRICE RISES ON ESSENTIAL IMPORTS AND IN WELCOMING UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. BILATERALLY, MUJIB AND NE WIN EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT EXCELLENT EXISTING RELATIONS, AGREED TO EXPAND COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS, AND FELT CONFIDENT THAT BURMA-BANGLADESH BORDER WOULD ALWAYS BE BORDER OF PEACE AND GOOD WILL. MUJIB THANKED NE WIN FOR SHELTERING BENGALREE REFUGEES AND GRANTING EARLY RECOGNITION. NE WIN INVITED PRESIDENT AND PM OF BANGLADESH TO BURMA. THE COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED NO BURMESE SUPPORT FOR BD ENTRY INTO UN AS IS CUSTOMARILY GIVEN BY VISITORS TO BD.

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2. AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE, BD FOREIGN MINISTER KAMAL HOSSAIN SAID THAT TRADE EXPANSION WOULD BE DISCUSSED FROM TIME TO TIME. RICE AND TIMBER FROM BURMA WERE TWO ITEMS FOR NEGOTIATION, HE SAID, BUT THE PROBLEM OF HIGH PRICES EXISTED. EARLIER, MFA SPOKESMAN HAD SAID THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF RICE DEAL. AT DINNER IN NE WIN'S HONOR APRIL 27, MUJIB HAILED VISIT AS FIRST OF A HEAD OF STATE FROM ASIA AND DESCRIBED BD AS BRIDGE BETWEEN SE ASIA AND SUBCONTINENT.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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